



PATENT

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Eyal Ron et al

Art Unit: 1616

Serial No.: 10/007,184

Examiner: D. Jones

Filed: November 13, 2001

Title: END-MODIFIED THERMAL RESPONSIVE HYDROGELS

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sirs:

Applicant submits the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. No copies of the cited references are required, as is explained below.

Submission of this statement is not a representation that a search has been made, nor is information included in this statement an admission that the information is material to patentability.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 120, this application relies on the earlier filing date of application serial number 09/368,440, filed on August 4, 1999, now issued as United States Patent No. 6,316,011. The following references were submitted to and/or cited by the Office in the prior application and, therefore, are not provided in this application:

United States Patent No. 4,474,752

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United States Patent No. 5,252,318

United States Patent No. 5,292,516

United States Patent No. 5,548,035

United States Patent No. 5,702,717

United States Patent No. 5,599,534

Japanese Published Patent Application No. 07-018042

European Patent No. 0 583 814

International Published Application No. WO 95/24430

International Published Application No. WO 97/00275

Bromberg et al. "Temperature-Responsive Gels and Thermogelling Polymer Matrices for Protein and Peptide Delivery" *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* **31**:197 (1998)

Bromberg, Lev "Scaling of Rheological Properties of Hydrogels from Associating Polymers" *Macromolecules* **31**:6148 (September 1998)

Bromberg, Lev "Self-Assembly in Aqueous Solutions of Polyether-Modified Poly(acrylic acid)" *Langmuir* **14**:5806 (September 1998)

Bromberg, Lev "Polyether-Modified Poly(acrylic acid): Synthesis and Applications" *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* **37**:4267 (September 1998)

Bromberg, Lev "Aggregation Phenomena in Aqueous Solutions of Hydrophobically Modified Polyelectrolytes. A Probe Solubilization Study." *Macromolecules* **32**:3649 (April 1999)

Huibers, et al. "Reversible Gelation in Semidilute Aqueous Solutions of Associative Polymers: A Small-Angle Neutron Scattering Study" *Macromolecules* **32**:4889 (June 1999)


Shultz et al. "Synthesis and Characterization of Hydrophobically Associating Water-Soluble Polymers" Macromolecular Complexes in Chemistry and Biology, Ed.

Dubin/Bock/Davis/Schulz/Theis, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg 1994

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance. A check for \$180.00 in payment of the late submission fee of 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/24/03

  
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